

[1 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

- Parallel bodies like Village/Rural Development Committees etc. should be abolished and every development work should be undertaken by and through panchayats.
- All the welfare projects should be executed through panchayats.

National Commission to deal with corruption

†343 SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to constitute National Commission to deal with the problem of corruption;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even after the publication of news in the newspapers regarding corruption in different Ministries, the anti-corruption agencies/intelligence department do not take any cognizance of it;

(c) if not, the arrangements made to deal with the above mentioned situation; and

(d) the reasons for not taking cognizance by the above mentioned agencies of the news of rampant corruption in the privilege quota of the Human Resource Development Minister?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Whenever any news-item regarding any act of misconduct or corruption on the part of the Government officials covered under the Central Vigilance Commission's jurisdiction come to its notice, the Commission takes *suo-moto*, due cognizance of it and recommends appropriate action. The Commission in exercise of powers under section 8(1) (d) and Section 11 of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 also gets the issues involved investigated if the need arises. If any Department/Ministry makes a specific reference to the CBI for investigation/enquiry into any matter reported in media and the same reveals *prima facie* cognizable offence, the same is enquired/investigated into by the CBI.

(c) The question does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) As informed by HRD Ministry, no instance of corruption in the discretionary quota of Minister of Human Resource Development has come to the notice of that Ministry. The CVC has also not dealt with any such case.

Cases pending with CBI

344. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly ten thousand cases are pending with CBI for trial;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in many corruption cases pertaining to Government officers; sanction for prosecution has not been given by Government;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and whether there is any time-frame set for giving sanction for prosecution; and

(e) the action being taken by Government for speedy disposal of pending cases awaiting trial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) As on 31.01.2007, 8219 cases were undertrial as per details given below.

(i) For less than 5 years	4320 cases
(ii) More than 5 and less than 10 years	1960 cases
(iii) More than 10 and less than 15 years	1168 cases
(iv) More than 15 and less than 20 years	526 cases
(v) More than 20 years	245 cases

The accused chargesheeted by the CBI generally exhausts all the possible avenues available under the criminal justice system to prolong trial proceedings. Further, a large number of witnesses/documents are required to be examined by the courts during trial which takes time.